

THE TIMES.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

—Mrs. Abby Sage Richardson is to give a series of lectures on English literature at Wesleyan Hall, in Boston.

—The Comte de Paris has written to the Southern Historical Society at Richmond, desiring to become a member, in order to examine its documents relating to the civil war.

—President Grant has expressed his intention of making Washington his future residence. He says he feels more at home and more identified with it than with any other city.

—Mr. Baker, the United States Minister to Russia, will resign at the end of the year in consequence of ill health. The climate of the country does not agree with him nor with his wife, who is now at a German watering-place by the advice of her physicians.

—The famous Southern editor, Col. John Forsyth, of the *Mobile Register*, is ill in that fashion which touches to sympathy the most indifferent. His mind, once so clear and efficient, shows fatal signs of weakness, and at times he fails to recognize his oldest and best friends. He has entirely given up editorial work.

—This is the obituary of the late Jeff Thompson in the *New Orleans Times*: "General Jeff Thompson is dead. At St. Joseph, Missouri, at 5 o'clock last evening, that genial, whole-souled, devil-may-care, personification of eccentricity, climbed the golden stair. Known and very generally liked the length and breadth of the land, scarcely an act of his life challenged criticism, and certainly none was provocative of lasting enmity."

—Prof. Huxley is of medium size and height. His form is somewhat bent. His face is thin and chiseled with deep lines. He looks like a studious, dyspeptic clergyman, who has tried to live on half a salary and failed in the attempt. The vigor, and subtlety, and force of his published lectures and essays, which abound in trenchant criticisms and defiant challenges to popular beliefs, give the impression of an athletic and powerful personality, and make the appearance of the rather slight, pale-faced student-professor somewhat disappointing.

Science and Industry.

—The bridge across White River, on the Wisconsin Central Railroad, is the largest wrought iron one in the world. It is 1,525 feet long, 107 feet high, and cost \$200,000.

—In the Chinese Department of the Centennial there is a bedstead whose beautiful carving required the work of twenty Celestials for five years. It is valued at \$4,000.

—During the past year, ending Sept. 1, 360 miles of new railroad have been built in Texas. The State has now within 185 miles of as much road as Georgia, the latter State having the greatest mileage in the South—2,264 miles.

—Col. J. W. Finney, of the U. S. Engineers, has been detailed to survey the Union and Central Pacific Railway between Omaha and Sacramento, it being alleged that the measurement of distances on which the U. S. bonds were issued to the companies was inaccurate.

—The Boston and Albany Railroad recently took off a set of steel car-wheels that had run 523,000 miles, a greater distance than was ever run by any car-wheels before in this or any other country. The average running distance of a common chilled iron car-wheel is only 30,000 miles.

—A patent has been taken out in England for brown paper blankets as bed coverings. They compensate for their lightness by their density, and add materially to warmth. They are perforated at distances of about four inches, in order to promote ventilation, and the small sizes, 48 by 31 inches, sell at about nine cents each. Several contracts have been made for hospitals and schools.

—Among the new articles of export from the United States to England—

whither we are now sending even fresh beef—is slate, a cargo of which has just arrived out. The slate is better and much cheaper than that found in the Welsh quarries. The time may come when we shall supply Europe with many of its staple articles of food and industry from our own vast natural storehouses.

—A hydrometer for testing the proportion of water in cider has come into use in New England. The test, however, does not indicate which has the most pleasant flavor, but simply determines the amount of water in the cider, whether it came from the apples, or was poured in to reduce the strength. Cider made from grafted fruit contains the most water. A miserable knurlly apple will produce the highest grade of cider, according to this standard.

School and Church.

—It is proposed to establish a Lay College at Auburn, N. Y., for the proper training of Christian men and women for church work.

—The Central Ohio Methodist Conference has, by a vote of 74 to 23, refused to concur in the proposed change of the bases of representation in the General Conference.

—The Madison Square Presbyterian Church in the city of New York contains the largest membership of that denomination in the United States. It numbers 1,594 communicants.

—The Trustees of a Congregational Church in Michigan have closed a contract with a young minister, who is to run their church for a year for the munificent remuneration of \$200! Too cheap to be good.

—Bishop Gilbert Haven has not yet sailed for Africa, but has just visited about a dozen camp-meetings, and preached with his customary fervent fluency. He will go to Liberia during the present month.

—At the Sunday-school Assembly which was lately held at Chautauqua Lake, N. Y., 40 lecturers were employed, and, among other illustrations of object-teaching, there was a model of Palestine 200 feet by 100 feet in area. The attendance was great.

—The Faculty of Cornell University has organized a course of sermons, in which prominent Baptist, Congregationalist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian and Unitarian divines will participate. An invitation extended to the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese to nominate two preachers of his Church was declined.

—The Congregationalist says that a great many New England ministers have felt the shrinkage of the hard times by the reduction of their salaries. As the New England churches, except in a few of the larger cities, were never celebrated for paying large salaries, any reduction will be a hardship to these overworked and underpaid men.

Raps and Mishaps.

—A Mr. Pritchard of Ixonia, Wis., was recently gored to death by a mad bull.

—A 5-year-old son of Louis Liestman, who lives near Mansfield, Piatt County, Ill., a few days since fell head foremost into a well near the house, and when discovered he was dead.

—Incited thereto by the excitement caused by the Northfield raid, two urchins of East Henderson, Minn., one being armed with a pitchfork and the other with a shot-gun, instituted a game of "robbers," during which the gun was discharged, its contents lodging in the right side of one, inflicting what is believed to be a fatal wound.

—Edward Ward, a young man employed on a threshing-machine near Janesville, Wis., in attempting to step over the tumbling-rod, got his pants on his left leg caught, and before he could get clear his right foot was carried into the knuckle and terribly mangled. The entire flesh and small bones from the ankle to the knee were stripped off and wound around the rod, rendering amputation necessary.

—Miss Rhoda Switzer, aged 18, of Greenville, Mich., attempted suicide by shooting herself in the head. The cause was a slight difficulty which arose between the lady for whom she was working and herself. The ball entered her left ear. Her recovery is considered doubtful. When discovered she at once asked some one to shoot her again.

—A German named Dr. John Muller, of Keokuk, Iowa, recently attempted to commit suicide in a most shocking manner. He first drew a razor across his throat from ear to ear, inflicting an ugly gash, and partially severing the windpipe. He then plunged a dissecting-knife into his breast, but this struck a rib and caused no serious injury. When found he was lying on the bed, stark naked and weltering in his own gore. The razor and dissecting-knife were lying beside him, and on the floor near the bed a hatchet, which he had also made use of. He left a letter, assigning remorse of conscience and disappointed ambition as the motives for the act. Strange to say, it was thought he might survive his injuries.

Foreign Notes.

—The Russian army can now be brought up to 2,500,000 men, without counting the national militia.

—Prince Charles of Monaco has been deposed, and his son, Prince Albert, has been intrusted with the Regency. The incapacity of Prince Charles arises from a nervous complaint, the nature of which is not stated. The Prince is 28 years of age, and has served in the Spanish and French navies. Since the close of the war he has lived almost entirely on his own yacht.

—On the 3d ult., there died at Milan, Antonia Luzzi, widow of the unfortunate Leon, Prince of Lusignan and King of Armenia, who died last February. She left six young children wholly without means of support. Three have been taken to public charitable institutions, and the others temporarily adopted by a workman, Jacques Merlini. They are the last of a line which reckoned 12 Emperors and 30 Kings.

—Not long ago Madame Ribard was examined at the School of Medicine in Paris before a large and curious audience. The lady is about 27 years old, and the mother of two children. At first she seemed a little disturbed, but soon recovered herself, and her replies were marked with much perspicacity. The jury decided that Madame Ribard merited the diploma of doctor, and the President complimented her on the extent of her knowledge.

—On a recently published list of English landed gentry appears the name of Wyndham Honeywood, a minor, heir to 6,436 acres, worth £8,275 a year. Wyndham Honeywood is a younger son, younger by a quarter of an hour than his twin brother, who will inherit whatever remains for him of the family estate. A kind uncle left all he had to the younger twin, because he was the younger, and that he too might not be without his due share of the good things of the earth. As the Fates have in this instance willed it, that quarter of an hour's space which divided the brothers at birth, and which was regarded by the prospects of the younger twin, will be the cause of his becoming a far wealthier man than his elder brother.

—For some time there has been much talk about the conduct of the Crown Prince of Holland. He lives in Paris, his palace in the Hague is closed, and all endeavors to induce him to return to the Hague have failed. The Prince prefers to amuse himself in Paris, instead of performing his duties as the first subject of his royal father. This behavior has created much discontent, but till now silence has been preserved on the subject. To the great surprise of every one, however, Mr. Mock, a well known Conservative politician of Amsterdam, the other day, in proposing a toast at a dinner, openly reproached the Prince for going into voluntary exile, and for spending on the Boulevards the time which ought to be given to his country, over which he will perhaps reign as William IV. Mr. Mock further expressed his regret that the Crown Prince had not yet given the nation the opportunity to welcome a Crown Princess.

Odds and Ends.

—In the fall the young man's ulster turns to thoughts of winter woes; In the fall the blithe mosquito dips his siphon in your nose.

—A correspondent asks us what portion of the ear is called the "lobe." It is the portion which your parent used to grab when he led you gently out to gaze upon the handsome proportions of the neglected woodpile.

—An exchange editor who was evi-

dently brought up under a good grandmother, with daily associations with pumpkin-pies, exclaims: "The pumpkin-pie season is again breaking upon the nation in full-orbed and transcendent glory."

—Who stands der streets and corners round, Mit setrel agaze to be ground, Und shinned and bowed and nefer frowned: Der candidate.

Who hold your hand when you would start, Und told you you was mighty smart, And how he loved you mit his hart: Der candidate.

—Mrs. Oliphant says: "The honeymoon is not always a delightful moment." Correct. And when the groom, while on his wedding tour, is presented with a hotel bill amounting to \$50, and finds only 18.50 in his pocket-book, he experiences one of the moments when it is not delightful.

—Intelligent farmers and scientists are now discussing the question, "Do bees hear?" We believe they do, and it can be easily proved. You take a bee by the tail, holding him between your thumb and forefinger, and say, "List, list, oh list," and you will feel listing on the end of your thumb before you are through speaking.—*Burlington Hawk-eye.*

—A laborer of Hibernian extraction was not long since lamenting the hard times, and said finally, "Av I was only back again in me father's pallis." A jolly fellow-workman squinted his eye and replied: "Sure, an' av ye were there, ye moight shan' an' the groom' an' reach yer han' down the chimbley an' open the door av it."

—James Gordon Bennett is working up a new plan of reporting. He is going to engage all the first-class poets and have his paper worked into verse, when it will read something after this fashion:

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.

Mr. Smith, a young man of Brooklyn, sat down yesterday on a pin, But it caused him much pain, So he rose up again; How wise are the youths of Brooklyn.

Or this:

TERRIFIC MISHAP.

Mr. Brown, of Fourteenth Street, New York, essayed to eat soup with a fork, Terrific mishap, it fell through on his lap, And scalded John Brown, of New York.

—*Boston Globe.*

A House Torn Down Over a Murderer who Refuses to Surrender.

Bob Glascott, of the Denver and Rio Grande Railway, kindly gave a *News* reporter a fuller account of the shooting affair at Trinidad than has yet been made known. It appears that Brigado Cordova, the man who was killed, is the Sheriff, and also is proprietor of a dance-house. An old Mexican, familiarly known by the patronymic of "Uncle Joe," has two daughters between sixteen and twenty years of age, who have long been the objects of Cordova's admiration. He wanted to get them to dance in his establishment, and made repeated attempts to induce them to add their presence to his list of attractions. The girls were willing to do as he wished them to, but their obdurate paternal progenitor was inclined to resent the proposal. Yesterday Cordova went over to "Joe's" house to talk the matter over, when the old man ordered him to leave. This the quondam Sheriff and dance-house keeper declined to do, in terms perhaps smacking more of force than of elegance. Joe repeated his order, and Cordova reiterated some choice expressions which he had used, and tried to enter the house, whereupon the old man shot him. The ball was a large one, and entered the breast of the victim, passing through his body. When the affair became noised abroad, the authorities went after the irate parent, but he refused to be taken. Bravery is above par in Trinidad, if any one may form such a conclusion from the fact that nobody dared go in and get the prisoner after he had declined to surrender. He was not taken until after the house had been about half torn down.

There is great excitement over the event, although public sympathy is mainly with the man who did the killing.—*Denver News.*

THE Erie Railway furnishes section masters with blanks to fill out in case of accident, so that the utmost accuracy may be had in following up the case. A cow was recently killed and the section master in filling up the blank came to the words, "What disposition?" After chewing his pencil a while he wrote, "Mild and gentle."—*New York Herald.*